WEST

Generate Collection

L9: Entry 4 of 4

File: DWPI

Sep 20,

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1989-271837

DERWENT-WEEK: 198938

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TITLE: Processing system for delivery of parcels - uses computer system with i on carriers and senders to select delivery channel and prepare documentation i each despatch

INVENTOR: FAJOUR, M; VANPOUCKE, J; VANPOUCKE, J F

PATENT-ASSIGNEE:

ASSIGNEE CODE
NEOPOST IND NEOPN
ALCATEL SATMAM ALCAN
SMH ALCATEL SA SMHAN

PRIORITY-DATA: 1988FR-0003277 (March 14, 1988)

PATENT-FAMILY:

PUB-NO	PUB-DATE	LANGUAGE	PAGES	MAIN-IPC
EP 333043 A	September 20, 1989	F	013	
DE 68918968 E	December 1, 1994		000	G06F015/21
EP 333043 B1	October 26, 1994	F	014	G06F015/21
FR 2628550 A	September 15, 1989		000	

DESIGNATED-STATES: DE FR GB DE FR GB

CITED-DOCUMENTS:4.Jnl.Ref; GB 2182178 ; JP56111963 ; JP58146957

APPLICATION-DATA:

PUB-NO	APPL-DATE	APPL-NO	DESCRIPTOR
EP 333043A	March 9, 1989	1989EP-0104224	
DE68918968E	March 9, 1989	1989DE-0618968	
DE68918968E	March 9, 1989	1989EP-0104224	
DE68918968E		EP 333043	Based on
EP 333043B1	March 9, 1989	1989EP-0104224	

INT-CL (IPC): G06F 15/21; G07B 17/00

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: EP 333043A

BASIC-ABSTRACT:

The parcel despatch system comprises a set of storages (2) for files contain: firstly identification of hauliers, of the services provided by each haulier documents which must accompany each parcel; and secondly of senders, and the particulars of each sender. The system can accept particulars relative to each despatch and check acceptance by each sender of a particular haulier's service.

The system executes a program (3) associated with the files to process the data control the storage of the particulars of each despatch. It is provided with of preparation and editing (10-13) of documents to generate the documents who accompany each despatch.

USE/ADVANTAGE - Provides fast, accurate, and reliable computer-controlled selection and documentation for despatch and transport of parcels.

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO:

EP 333043B EQUIVALENT-ABSTRACTS:

A computerized parcel shipping system for routing shipments received from different senders to respective recipients via different carriers on the basis of data defining a recipient for each shipment, together with a carrier and a specific one of that carrier's services which is to be used, the system comprising: first memories constituting, firstly a carrier file (21) containing characteristics specific to carriers usable by the system and relating to individual identification of the carriers themselves and to identification of the various services offered by each of them, together with the types of document required for accompanying each shipment for each service, and secondly a sender file (22) containing characteristics specific to the senders using the system and relating to individual identification of the senders themselves, and to identification fo the carriers that each of the senders may use and the services of said carriers to which they have access; a second memory constituting a shipment file (20); input means (6) for inputting data relating to each shipment, print means (10-13) for outputting documents, and a programmed control unit (3) coupled to said files, to said input means, and to said print means, and including shipment preprocessing means (35-42) for inputting data, shipment processing means (45-46) attributing an individual reference to each shipment which, together with the data as input and verified defines the characteristics of the correspondin g shipment, referred to as a ''processed'' shipment, and storing the characteristics of each processed shipment in a shipment record in the shipment file, and document printing control means (48, 51, 58) for generating the documents identified in the carrier file on the basis of the shipment record int he shipment file corresponding to each shipment, characterised in that the shipment preprocessing means include software means (35-42) for comparing inputted data with data held in the first memories (21) and with data held in the second memory (20), and for displaying any error detected by this comparison.

CHOSEN-DRAWING: Dwg.1/4 Dwg.1,2/4

TITLE-TERMS: PROCESS SYSTEM DELIVER PARCEL COMPUTER SYSTEM FLY CARRY SEND SELECT DELIVER CHANNEL PREPARATION DOCUMENT DESPATCH

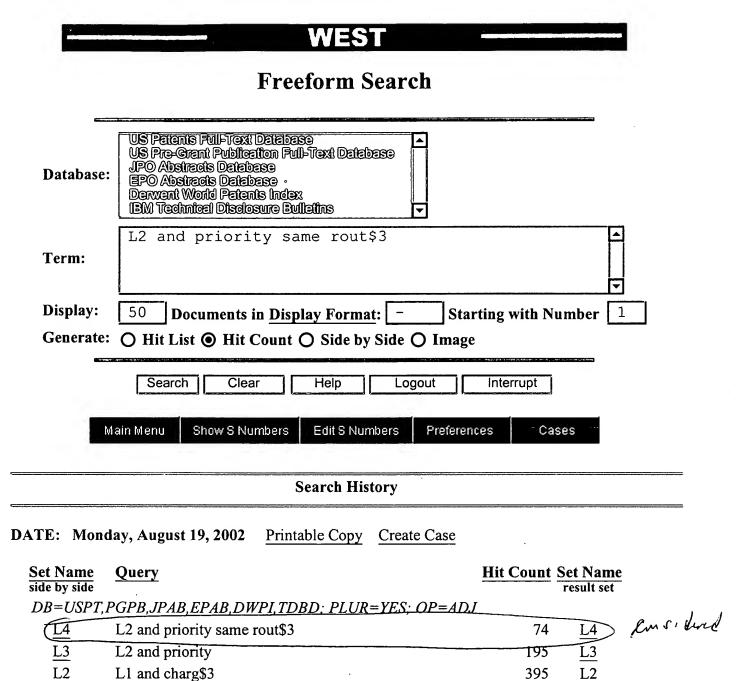
DERWENT-CLASS: T01

EPI-CODES: T01-J05A;

SECONDARY-ACC-NO:

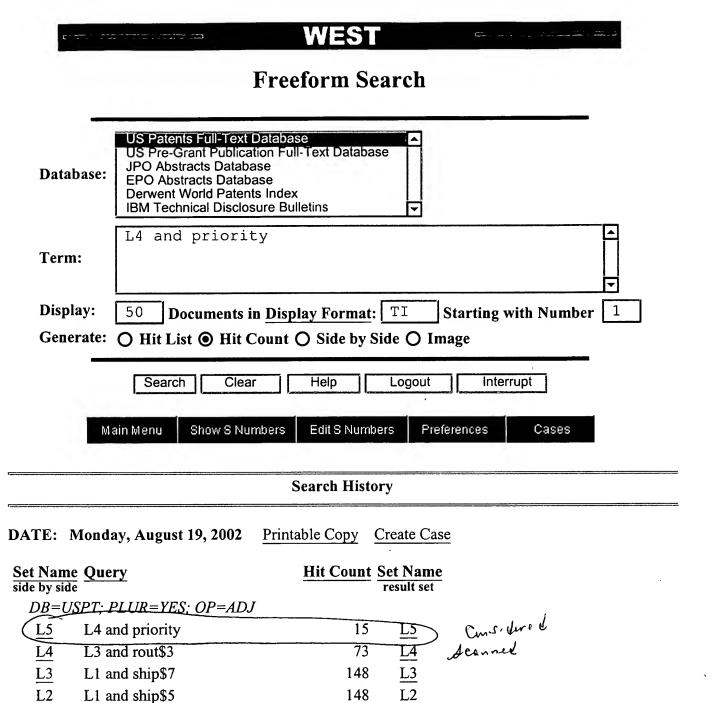
Non-CPI Secondary Accession Numbers: N1989-207650

977



END OF SEARCH HISTORY

ship\$5 and rout\$3 near5 (id or ident\$8)



1303

END OF SEARCH HISTORY

(235/375 OR 235/478.01).CCLS.

Welcome to DialogClassic Web(tm)

Dialog level 02.08.05D

Last logoff: 31jul02 13:40:01

Logon file405 19aug02 10:17:56

*** ANNOUNCEMENT ***

* * *

--File 990 - NewsRoom now contains May 2002 to present records. File 993 - NewsRoom archive contains 2002 records from January 2002-April 2002. To search all 2002 records, BEGIN 990,993.

--Alerts has been enhanced to allow a single Alert profile to be stored and run against multiple files. Duplicate removal is available across files and for up to 12 months. The Alert may be run according to the file's update frequency or according to a custom calendar-based schedule. There are no additional prices for these enhanced features. See HELP ALERT for more information.

--U.S. Patents Fulltext (File 654) has been redesigned with new search and display features. See HELP NEWS 654 for information.

* * *

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- --Dialog NewsRoom is now available. BEGIN NEWSROOM to use the files in a OneSearch. See NEW FILES RELEASED (below) for individual file numbers.
- --Connect Time joins DialUnits as pricing options on Dialog. See HELP information.
- --CLAIMS/US Patents (Files 340,341, 942) have been enhanced with both application and grant publication level in a single record. See HELP NEWS 340 for information.
- --SourceOne patents are now delivered to your email inbox as PDF replacing TIFF delivery. See HELP SOURCE1 for more information.
- --Important news for public and academic libraries. See HELP LIBRARY for more information.
- --Important Notice to Freelance Authors--See HELP FREELANCE for more information

For information about the access to file 43 please see Help News43.

NEW FILES RELEASED

- ***Dialog NewsRoom Current 3-4 months (File 990)
- ***Dialog NewsRoom 2002 Archive (File 993)
- ***Dialog NewsRoom 2001 Archive (File 994)
- ***Dialog NewsRoom 2000 Archive (File 995)
- ***TRADEMARKSCAN-Finland (File 679)
- ***TRADEMARKSCAN-Norway (File 678)
- ***TRADEMARKSCAN-Sweden (File 675)

* * *

T S2/FULL/ALL

2/9/1 (Item 1 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2: INSPEC

(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts. reserv.

4539518 INSPEC Abstract Number: C9401-1290D-052

Title: Freight rates for small shipments

Author(s): Arcelus, F.J.; Rowcroft, J.E.

Author Affiliation: New Brunswick Univ., Fredericton, NB, Canada Journal: International Journal of Production Economics vol.30-31 571-7

Publication Date: July 1993 Country of Publication: Netherlands CODEN: IJPEE6 ISSN: 0925-5273

U.S. Copyright Clearance Center Code: 0925-5273/93/\$06.00

Conference Title: Seventh International Working Seminar on Produc Economics

Conference Date: 17-21 Feb. 1992 Conference Location: Innsbr Austria

Language: English Document Type: Conference Paper (PA); Journal P (JP)

Treatment: Economic aspects (E); Theoretical (T)

Abstract: Implementation of just-in-time production planning policies resulted in the expected lower level of inventories for many firms. Of it has also resulted in higher per unit freight charges due to inability to qualify any longer for the cheaper rates, which accom higher volume shipments. This in turn has led to an update of procurement practices on the part of many firms and a new look at s volume freight rates, such as less-than-truckload (LTL) and small pa (SPR). This paper seeks to study the determinants which help these small volume trucking rates, with a view to how they may reac changes in customers' inventory policies. The analysis is performed u the CANPAR (Canada Parcel) tariff for September 1990 for packages fro lb. each. This tariff is divided into eleven schedules or 'zo and each route is assigned to a zone based on the postal codes of its points. Among the factors hypothesized to influence the rates are wei distance, number of shipments on the return route and the effect Canada's unique geographical composition. (6 Refs)

Subfile: C

Descriptors: costing; goods distribution

Identifiers: JIT; less-than-truckload rates; carriers; CANPAR tariff; small shipments; just-in-time production planning policies; procurement practices; small volume freight rates; small parcel rates; Canada Parce 11 to 500 lb

Class Codes: C1290D (Economics and business); C1290F (Industry); C129 Transportation)

Numerical Indexing: mass 5.0E+00 to 2.3E+02 kg

2/9/2 (Item 2 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:INSPEC

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File

File

*File

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removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.
         (c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res
       6: Alert feature enhanced for multiple files, duplicates
removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.
         8:Ei Compendex(R) 1970-2002/Aug W3
      8: Alert feature enhanced for multiple files, duplicates
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removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.

File 25:Weldasearch 1966-2002/Feb

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*File 25: Further updates will be added as they become available.

For more information please see Help News25.

2:INSPEC 1969-2002/Aug W3

6:NTIS 1964-2002/Aug W4

34:SciSearch(R) Cited Ref Sci 1990-2002/Aug W3

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*File 34: Alert feature enhanced for multiple files, duplicates

removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.

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65:Inside Conferences 1993-2002/Aug W2

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92:IHS Intl.Stds.& Specs. 1999/Nov File

(c) 1999 Information Handling Services

*File 92: This file is closed (no updates)

File 94:JICST-EPlus 1985-2002/Jun W4

(c) 2002 Japan Science and Tech Corp(JST)

*File 94: There is no data missing. UDs have been adjusted to reflect

the current months data. See Help News94 for details.

File 95:TEME-Technology & Management 1989-2002/Aug W2

(c) 2002 FIZ TECHNIK

99: Wilson Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2002/Jul File

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File 103:Energy SciTec 1974-2002/Jul B1

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*File 103: For access restrictions see Help Restrict.

File 108:Aerospace Database 1962-2002/Jul

(c) 2002 Cambridge Sci Abs

File 144: Pascal 1973-2002/Aug W3

(c) 2002 INIST/CNRS

File 239:Mathsci 1940-2002/Sep

(c) 2002 American Mathematical Society

File 241: Elec. Power DB 1972-1999Jan

(c) 1999 Electric Power Research Inst.Inc

*File 241: This file is closed (no updates)

File 434:SciSearch(R) Cited Ref Sci 1974-1989/Dec

(c) 1998 Inst for Sci Info

File 647:CMP Computer Fulltext 1988-2002/Aug W3

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Set Items Description

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S PARCEL (S) SHIP?
            6460
                  PARCEL
          311552
                  SHIP?
      S1
             333
                  PARCEL (S) SHIP?
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S S1 (S) ROUT?
             <u>3</u>33
                  S1
          862694—ROUT?
      S2
              11
                  S1 (S) ROUT?
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S S2 AND CHAR?
Processing
Processed 10 of
                  17 files ...
>>>File 144 processing for CHAR? stopped at CHARNEUE
Completed processing all files
              11
                  S2
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                  CHAR?
      S3
               5
                  S2 AND CHAR?
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COST
       19aug02 10:34:55 User268094 Session D15.2
            $1.44
                      0.221 DialUnits File2
     $1.44
            Estimated cost File2
                      0.096 DialUnits File6
            $0.57
     $0.57
            Estimated cost File6
            $1.32
                      0.189 DialUnits File8
            Estimated cost File8
     $1.32
            $0.09
                      0.026 DialUnits File25
            Estimated cost File25
     $0.09
            $2.75
                      0.161 DialUnits File34
     $2.75
            Estimated cost File34
            $0.12
                      0.032 DialUnits File65
     $0.12
            Estimated cost File65
                      0.018 DialUnits File92
            $0.06
     $0.06
            Estimated cost File92
                      0.120 DialUnits File94
            $0.42
     $0.42
            Estimated cost File94
            $0.29
                      0.042 DialUnits File95
     $0.29
            Estimated cost File95
                      0.041 DialUnits File99
            $0.10
     $0.10
            Estimated cost File99
                      0.211 DialUnits File103
            $1.07
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            Estimated cost File103
            $0.25
                      0.055 DialUnits File108
            Estimated cost File108
     $0.25
            $0.64
                      0.182 DialUnits File144
     $0.64
            Estimated cost File144
            $0.21
                      0.053 DialUnits File239
     $0.21
            Estimated cost File239
            $0.05
                      0.012 DialUnits File241
     $0.05
            Estimated cost File241
            $0.83
                      0.049 DialUnits File434
     $0.83
            Estimated cost File434
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	\$0.21 0.041 DialUnits File647
\$0.21	Estimated cost File647
	OneSearch, 17 files, 1.548 DialUnits FileOS
\$2.81	INTERNET
\$13.23	Estimated cost this search
\$14.31	Estimated total session cost 1.777 DialUnits

Return to logon page!

T S2/TI/ALL

2/TI/1 (Item 1 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts reserv.

Title: Freight rates for small shipments

2/TI/2 (Item 2 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts reserv.

Title: From zip to zone (code conversion subroutine)

2/TI/3 (Item 1 from file: 6)

DIALOG(R) File 6:(c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res. All rts. reserv.

Composite Variable Formulations for Express Shipment Service Netwo Design

2/TI/4 (Item 2 from file: 6)

DIALOG(R) File 6:(c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res. All rts. reserv.

Routine and Express Small Parcel Shipment Analysis

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(Final rept)

2/TI/5 (Item 3 from file: 6)

DIALOG(R) File 6:(c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res. All rts. reserv.

Analysis of NAVADS Small Parcel Shipping Policy

(Master's thesis)

2/TI/6 (Item 4 from file: 6)

DIALOG(R) File 6:(c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res. All rts. reserv.

Mountain Valley Library System Delivery Study, 1977

2/TI/7 (Item 1 from file: 8)

DIALOG(R) File 8:(c) 2002 Engineering Info. Inc. All rts. reserv.

Title: Freight rates for small shipments

2/TI/8 (Item 2 from file: 8)

DIALOG(R) File 8: (c) 2002 Engineering Info. Inc. All rts. reserv.

Title: PARCEL CHEMICAL CARRIERS: CHARACTERISTICS AND OPERATION.

2/TI/9 (Item 1 from file: 34)

DIALOG(R) File 34: (c) 2002 Inst for Sci Info. All rts. reserv.

Title: FREIGHT RATES FOR SMALL SHIPMENTS

2/TI/10 (Item 1 from file: 94)

DIALOG(R) File 94: (c) 2002 Japan Science and Tech Corp(JST). All rts. reserv.

The background and current state of the promotion of intermodal transportation. Centering on international distribution.

2/TI/11 (Item 1 from file: 647)

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UPS ADMITS LOSING BUSINESS TO RIVALS AS LABOR TALKS STALL (Radar 7.15.0

2/TI/12 (Item 2 from file: 647)

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Logistics Managers Face Triple Threat - Two strike possibilities, airl security raise danger of disruptions

2/TI/13 (Item 3 from file: 647)

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Customs Calls For Tighter U.S. Borders - Government Pushing For Better Data On In-Transit Goods

2/TI/14 (Item 4 from file: 647)

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Industry Braces For Logistics Slowdown - Supply Chain Pundits Expect C Of Global Shipments To Rise

2/TI/15 (Item 5 from file: 647)

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When Efficiency Counts - Staying lean's the goal in an economic slump-

al-time logistics can help

2/TI/16 (Item 6 from file: 647)
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Network Power, Web Keep Industry Moving - Speedy delivery of status reports depends on strong networks and complex Web tie-ins

2/TI/17 (Item 7 from file: 647)
DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

101 Best Business Sites - Don't surf in the dark. This guide to the be business sites helps keep you on the path to profitability.

2/TI/18 (Item 8 from file: 647)
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Internet Opens Markets Abroad - Global Companies Still Need To Overcom Cultural Obstacles

2/TI/19 (Item 9 from file: 647)
DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

Moving To A FedEx-tranet

2/TI/20 (Item 10 from file: 647)
DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

Lotus apps teamed with UPS - Shipping, tracking in Domino Merchant, Net.Commerce

2/TI/21 (Item 11 from file: 647)
DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

Technology Spending - The Billion Dollar Club - Companies with big IT budgets have no problem getting vendors to listen

2/TI/22 (Item 12 from file: 647)
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Information Is Part Of The Package - Package delivery companies are u innovative technologies to provide more information to customers.

2/TI/23 (Item 13 from file: 647)

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Shipment tracking - Data Is Part Of The Package - UPS and rivals offer services to help clients track their shipments

2/TI/24 (Item 14 from file: 647)

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Viteq Expands Benchmark Uninterruptible Power-Supply Line - Products Enable Interfacing With Computers That Have RS-232 Ports

2/TI/25 (Item 15 from file: 647)

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The Latest Way To Get ICs-Guns

2/TI/26 (Item 16 from file: 647)

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Expanded credit line fuels PCDistributing growth

2/TI/27 (Item 17 from file: 647)

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USAir

2/TI/28 (Item 18 from file: 647)

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Ellett: Listening To The Customer Is Key

T S2/K/ALL >>>KWIC option is not available in file(s): 241

2/K/1 (Item 1 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts reserv.

... Abstract: to the inability to qualify any longer for the che rates, which accompany higher volume shipments. This in turn has le an update of the procurement practices on the part...

... new look at small volume freight rates, such as less-than-truck (LTL) and small parcel rates (SPR). This paper seeks to study determinants which help set these small volume...

... react to changes in customers' inventory policies. The analysi performed using the CANPAR (Canada Parcel) tariff for September 1990 packages from 11 to 500 lb. each. This tariff is divided into el schedules or 'zones' and each route is assigned to a zone based on postal codes of its end points. Among the factors hypothesized to influ the rates are weight, distance, number of shipments on the return r and the effects of Canada's unique geographical composition.

2/K/2 (Item 2 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts reserv.

Abstract: The subprogram is a very simple test routine that convert the zip code entered on work-order, shipper and invoice form the UPS or parcel post shipping zone number.

2/K/3 (Item 1 from file: 6)

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... scale network design problems, specifically the problem of desig the air network of an express shipment (i. e., overnight) deli operation. We focus on simultaneously determining the route struct the assignment of fleet types to routes, and the flow of package aircraft. Traditional formulations for network design involve modeling ...

... solution strategies strengthen the bounds by adding cuts, but the s size of the express shipment problem results in models that intractable. To overcome this shortcoming, we introduce a new...

... 2) combines the design variables into composite variables, w represent the selection of multiple aircraft routes that cover demands for some subset of commodities. The resulting composite vari formulation provides... ...good solutions to be found quickly. We apply this type of formulatio the express shipment operations of the United Parcel Service (U Compared with existing plans, the model produces a solution that red the number...

Descriptors: Delivery; *Networks; * Routing ; *Air transportat Aircraft; Decision making; Strategy; Model theory; Linear programm Theses; Commercial aviation; Variables; Costs...

2/K/4 (Item 2 from file: 6)

DIALOG(R) File 6:(c) 2002 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res. All rts. reserv.

Routine and Express Small Parcel Shipment Analysis

This study explored the impact/feasibility of decentralizing rou and expedite non-MlLSTRIP small parcel shipment process from TM the unit level. Surveys were distributed to 63 bases. Responses were...

... reduction in a specific TMF and/or improved customer service levels specific units that ship large volumes of non-MILSTRIP small parc TMFs should look at each case separately and...

Descriptors: Financial management; *Shipping; Requirements; Ships; Im; Reduction; Feasibility studies; Workload; Savings; Fina Decentralization; Manhours; Executive routines

Identifiers: Express; Parcel shipment; Lpn-aflma-lt9408010; NTISD

2/K/5 (Item 3 from file: 6)

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Analysis of NAVADS Small Parcel Shipping Policy

... support activities and the operating forces. To fulfill responsibility, NSC San Diego employs various shipping methodologie get the required materials to customers, and it attempts to do this at lowest possible cost. This thesis focuses on the small parcel policy that governs the determination of the mode of shipment . factors analyzed are the small parcel package the interface of NAVADS and NISTARS in mode-of ship determination, and the cost savings that have occurred by overriding the NAVADS recommendations.

Descriptors: Shipping; *Spare parts; *Naval logistics; Costs; Interfa Logistics; Materials; Navy; Parts; Policies; Routing; Savings; Theses

2/K/6 (Item 4 from file: 6)

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... in the system during a two-month sample period and projects a ye volume by shipping library and by material category. Costs are proje for continuing the service during FY 1978...

... van system. These costs are compared to projections for use of o carriers including United Parcel Service. Conclusions show that, for desired speed of delivery arrival, packaging time costs, and integrit the shipment method, the use of dedicated delivery vans is the most efficient delivery. Schedules, routes, mileage charts, and sample f and instructions used during the study are appended.

2/K/7 (Item 1 from file: 8)

DIALOG(R) File 8:(c) 2002 Engineering Info. Inc. All rts. reserv.

... Abstract: to the inability to qualify any longer for the cheaper rates, which accompany higher volume shipments. This in turn has led an update of the procurement practices on the part...

...new look at small volume freight rates, such as less-than-truckload (LTL) and small parcel rates (SPR). This paper seeks to study the determinants which help set these small volume...

...react to changes in customers' inventory policies. The analysis is performed using the CANPAR (Canada Parcel) tariff for September 1990 packages from 11 to 500 lb. each. This tariff is divided into eleven schedules or ?zones' and each route is assigned to a zone based on th postal codes of its end points. Among the factors hypothesized to influ the rates are weight, distance, number of shipments on the return ro and the effects of Canada's unique geographical composition. (Author abstract) 6 Refs.

2/K/8 (Item 2 from file: 8)

DIALOG(R) File 8:(c) 2002 Engineering Info. Inc. All rts. reserv.

Abstract: Parcel chemical carriers are a type of tank ship purpose-built to carry a variety of bulk liquids requiring specialized cargo handling and cargo containments. The ships are designed and bui to provide exceptional flexibility of cargo tank use and cargo stowage.

...of liquid cargo characteristics. The paper describes the salient and more unique characteristics of this ship type. The manner in which ca tank configuration design is dependent upon trade routes, regulatory requirements for dangerous cargo, and other special requirements are described.

2/K/9 (Item 1 from file: 34)

DIALOG(R) File 34:(c) 2002 Inst for Sci Info. All rts. reserv.

- ... Abstract: to the inability to qualify any longer for the cheaper rat which accompany higher volume shipments. This in turn has led to update of the procurement practices on the part...
- ...new look at small volume freight rates, such as less-than-truckload (LTL) and small parcel rates (SPR).

This paper seeks to study the determinants which help set these small volume...

...react to changes in customers' inventory policies. The analysis is performed using the CANPAR (Canada Parcel) tariff for September 1 for packages from 11 to 500 lb. each. This tariff is divided into eleven schedules or 'zones' and each route is assigned to a zone based on the postal codes of its end points. Among the factors hypothesized to influence the rates are weight, distance, number of shipments on the return route and the effects of Canada's unique geographical composition.

2/K/10 (Item 1 from file: 94)

DIALOG(R) File 94: (c) 2002 Japan Science and Tech Corp(JST). All rts. reserv.

- ...ABSTRACT: only after the 1960s that the promotion of intermodal transportation (a complex of direct transport routes), regardless whether the operation was domestic or international started in Japa variety of...
- ...appear even before the international Sea/Air service made its debut. the other hand, shipping rearrangements on the North American ro have become active as measures to overcome the current shipping recession, while the U.S. airline operator's door-to-door parcel delivery service has already begun in Japan. With these activities, Japan is about to enter...

2/K/11 (Item 1 from file: 647)

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TEXT:

United Parcel Service Inc., Atlanta, last week admitted that its customers are routing business to its competitors on concerns that unresolved labor issues at the carrier could affect their operations. June shipping volume fell 4% from June 2001, compared with declines 2% in April and May...

2/K/12 (Item 2 from file: 647)

DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

... ports last year, and West Coast docks are major points of entr for goods en route from Asia, such as consumer electronics, durable products, and automobiles.

"When strikes occur at these...

...issue on logistics managers' radar screen is the contract talks bet the country's largest shipper, United Parcel Service Inc., Atlanta and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. A contract covering ab 230,000...

2/K/13 (Item 3 from file: 647)

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... and loading docks. Greater emphasis will be placed on how good are transported, what shipping routes are used, and what means compa use to move products.

"We must reaffirm the importance...

...against the smuggling of weapons of mass destruction. Even basic functions like sharing information about shipments could become a challenge, said a spokesman for logistics provider United Parcel Ser of America Inc., Atlanta.

Even without an official customs clampdown, UPS has encountered problems...

2/K/14 (Item 4 from file: 647)

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TEXT:

- ... terrorist strike could interfere with the high-tech sector's ability to resume a normal routine .
- ... to check more goods, but at the same time, a number of them ha been routed to other areas. They're being asked to do more with less people," said Banc...
- ...of Avnet Electronic Marketing Americas at Avnet Inc., Phoenix, is concerned that cost increases for shipping cargo on commercial airli could eventually lead to the demise of smaller parcel carriers.

"Smaller carriers are competitive with service and price," he sa "This is an unmitigated...

2/K/15 (Item 5 from file: 647)

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... TradeSphere Event Manager to provide information and give notification of problems on in-transit global shipments as they move among exporters, freight forwarders, carriers, and government agencies UPS e-Logistics, a subsidiary of package- delivery company United Parc Service Inc., two weeks ago expanded its hosted logistics service to 1 businesses compare stock...with 85 terminals serving the Southwest and Coast, signed on to use the strategic route - and network-planning technology offered as an online service by Logistics.com. Logistics.co

...in other ways. It gets hourly updates of diesel prices along the mo fuel-efficient routes and sends drivers real-time data on the least-expensive spots to get fuel. Welding...

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2/K/16 (Item 6 from file: 647)

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- ... recently finished linking its high-speed core asynchronous transfer mode network with about 3,200 routers that carry IP data to 1,100 locations around the world. The result? FedEx has...
- ...can use the Internet to locate the truck carrying their goods while it's en route, or locate an item on a truck or in a warehouse.

 Many transportation companies are...

...own shipments.

Included are rating programs that give customers the exact price a planned shipment, says Bob Obee, Roadway's chief technology office Most sites today give an estimated or...

...its icon to sites that sell products delivered in packages larger t those that United Parcel Service of America Inc. or FedEx carry, but smaller than a full truckload. "People are...IT development among transportation companies is their asset-management systems-the technol that schedules and routes pilots, planes, and passengers, or drivers trucks, and boxes. This year, FedEx developed what it...

...the-minute information about each piece of the shipment, couriers t can determine how to route the package so all three arrive at the fi destination simultaneously.

Because of FedEx's...

2/K/17 (Item 7 from file: 647)

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- ... also track down e-mail and postal addresses for long-lost colleagues and map a route to their door. Search tools help you scou the Web and steer you to scads...a one-stop shop for just about anyth mail-related. You can buy stamps and shipping supplies, check rates, even track Priority Mail and Parcel Post packages. Also available: z code lookup, downloadable forms and a mailbag of similar goodies.
- 85. United Parcel Service (www.ups.com) Let your mouse do the heavy lifting at the UPS site. Schedule pickups, calculate shipping charges, track deliveries, order supplies, locate a nearby drop-off po and more. While you're in the neighborhood, you can download shipping software and get information on claims and guarantees.

Storage/Backup

86. @Backup (www.atbackup.com...

...shows the plane's speed, altitude and compass heading. If you're th one en route, TheTrip.com can automatically notify up to three people-mail about your flight...

2/K/18 (Item 8 from file: 647)

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... revenue accounts for 20% of sales. President Paresh Shah cites additional benefit of eliminating routine information fulfillment fo tire-kickers, which is slow and expensive for international prospects.

Virtual Vineyards...international distribution networks.

Air express carriers such as DHL Worldwide Express, Federal Expr, and United Parcel Service offer door-to-door services that leverage their own substantial Internet investments with faster customs clearan and E-mail shipment notification.

DHL, the \$5 billion privately held air express carrier, has crea private Web sites...

2/K/19 (Item 9 from file: 647)

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... of the shipping process more accessible to the people who are actually shipping packages.''

United Parcel Service, which ships roughly 12 million package daily compared with FedEx's 3 million, has matched most of...

...application won't impact his company's prodigious mail-order operations, where shipping requests are routed through the corporate mailroom. Yet Eike sees the application as a way to link retail...

2/K/20 (Item 10 from file: 647)

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Lotus Development Corp. and IBM Corp. will integrate the shipping and tracking capabilities of United Parcel Service into its next ver of Domino Merchant and Net.Commerce.

Lotus is building customized...

...so a merchant can quickly set up a catalog business, process the transactions online and route to UPS so its reps can come deliver product," said Keith McCall, director of Lotus...

2/K/21 (Item 11 from file: 647)

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... T, Hewlett-Packard, and IBM. Also in the group are automakers General Motors and Ford, shipper United Parcel Service, and insurand financial services firm Prudential Insurance Co. of America.

Big Market Slice...activate services.

On the consumer side, AT&T has developed "intelligent call processing" software, which routes customers to the right agent, depending on customer preferences. "If the customer prefers to speak Spanish, he'll automatically be routed to a center where he'll be greeted in Spanish," says Alan Jones, a VP...its 80 million customers "This will be a strategic differentiator for us," he says. "We routi

process billions of call detail records."

--

Chase's New Image

Chase Manhattan's merger with...

...driver," says CIO Lance Boxer. "When we create new local services, directory assistance, advanced call- routing, Net browsers, 800 services-all those ideas incorporate information systems."

A healthy chunk of MCI...

2/K/22 (Item 12 from file: 647)

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TEXT:

Not long ago, Frank Erbrick, CIO at United Parcel Service, walke into his boss' office and suggested changing the company's name to United...

...Service. He was only half-joking. More than ever, UPS is moving be the package shipping business and into the information business. At heart of this transformation is information technology.

... provide more than just tracking information. The system will m account information, claim information, rates, routing data, and oth information available to customers.

"In the past, they would have to make...

2/K/23 (Item 13 from file: 647)

DIALOG(R) File 647: (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

That's why United Stationers has put in place an automated shippi tool, UPS OnLine-from United Parcel Service-to help calm dealers' nerves. UPS OnLine allows customers like United Stationers to ask for pickups and track their shipments. It also helps UPS clients customiz record-keeping and reports, print bar-coded address labels...

...peer communications protocol using IBM AS/400 front ends. A custom-built customer-message server routes the data to the appropri database.

Eventually, UPS OnLine will be available for three types...

2/K/24 (Item 14 from file: 647)

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... UPS that utility power has been interrupted, it can be program to initiate automatic shutdown routines utilizing user- defined parameters.

Coordinated Operation

Network users can be notified of the time remaining...

...from \$1,945 to \$3,345, including the interface cable.

Units are packaged for economical shipment by United Parcel Service at rates considerably lower than those of standard carriers. Delivery is usually from stock...

2/K/25 (Item 15 from file: 647)

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... Jose company for \$500,000 worth of components that have not bee recovered.

On the Route 128 belt highway in Massachusetts, the Middlesex County District Attorney's office has prosecuted six...

...Just last week, the Irvine police arrested two men who had dressed as United Parcel Service delivery men and were going from one high-t company to the next picking up boxes of memory chips and other compone that were on loading docks for shipment, Bowman said. The two obvious had some experience in the high-tech business, as they...

2/K/26 (Item 16 from file: 647)

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... internal operations fortification, the distributor has launched new online tracking service for all United Parcel Service shipments sent out to PCDistributing resellers.

The UPS tracking system, which is available at no charge...

...into the UPS computer system, she said. The service is important, s noted, because customers routinely request tracking performed on shipments.

With the new service, PCDistributing customer service representatives are able...

2/K/27 (Item 17 from file: 647)

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... billion enterprise that designs two-way radio systems and mobi data systems-uses dozens of routers from Cisco Systems to internetwo nearly 400 sites worldwide.

At the core of its network architecture are four routers , linke through a high-speed fiber distributed data interface (FDDI) ring, tha act as a large "virtual" router . This central router controls traft to the entire internetwork.

In addition, Motorola is building an X.400-based...

...systems worldwide. UPS

Since its humble beginnings as a bicycle-delivery service in 1907 United Parcel Service Inc. has become the world's largest shipper . as Federal Express and other competitors gained market share in the mid-1970s, UPS...

2/K/28 (Item 18 from file: 647)
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... effectively. We offer next-day delivery using Airborne Express and for that we charge United Parcel Service Inc.! ground rates. If choose to have it shipped UPS ground instead, then the freight is fr SNI: Does Gates have to eat the...

...means when a customer calls in looking for an answer, they're going get routed straight to the person that can answer their question. An it's free. It's...

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T S2/FULL/ALL

2/9/1 (Item 1 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2: INSPEC

(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts. reserv.

4539518 INSPEC Abstract Number: C9401-1290D-052

Title: Freight rates for small shipments

Author(s): Arcelus, F.J.; Rowcroft, J.E.

Author Affiliation: New Brunswick Univ., Fredericton, NB, Canada Journal: International Journal of Production Economics vol.30-31 571-7

Publication Date: July 1993 Country of Publication: Netherlands CODEN: IJPEE6 ISSN: 0925-5273

U.S. Copyright Clearance Center Code: 0925-5273/93/\$06.00

Conference Title: Seventh International Working Seminar on Produc Economics

Conference Date: 17-21 Feb. 1992 Conference Location: Innsbr Austria

Language: English Document Type: Conference Paper (PA); Journal P (JP)

Treatment: Economic aspects (E); Theoretical (T)

Abstract: Implementation of just-in-time production planning policies resulted in the expected lower level of inventories for many firms. Of it has also resulted in higher per unit freight charges due to inability to qualify any longer for the cheaper rates, which accom higher volume shipments. This in turn has led to an update of procurement practices on the part of many firms and a new look at s freight rates, such as less-than-truckload (LTL) and small pa paper seeks to study the determinants which help rates (SPR). This these small volume trucking rates, with a view to how they may reac in customers' inventory policies. The analysis is performed u changes the CANPAR (Canada Parcel) tariff for September 1990 for packages fro each. This tariff is divided into eleven schedules or 'zo to 500 each route is assigned to a zone based on the postal codes of its Among the factors hypothesized to influence the rates are wei distance, number of shipments on the return route and the effect Canada's unique geographical composition. (6 Refs)

Subfile: C

Descriptors: costing; goods distribution

Identifiers: JIT; less-than-truckload rates; carriers; CANPAR tariff; small shipments; just-in-time production planning policies; procurement practices; small volume freight rates; small parcel rates; Canada Parce 11 to 500 lb

Class Codes: C1290D (Economics and business); C1290F (Industry); C129 Transportation)

Numerical Indexing: mass 5.0E+00 to 2.3E+02 kg

2/9/2 (Item 2 from file: 2)

DIALOG(R) File 2:INSPEC

(c) 2002 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts. reserv.

service, is building distribution centers in Britain, and eventually Germany, to take advantage of a European audience of 28 million Intern users and to more quickly fulfill sales generated by its Web site, as as its European television programs.

Whether or not a company decides to build its own or outsource global distribution, fulfillment, and customer support systems, the Internet changes the nature of business. "The instantaneous interactiv users experience on the Internet adds an urgency factor to internation business," says Kevin Langston, director of international trade at the Georgia Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism.

For companies willing to fit the pieces required to build a globa -commerce infrastructure, a huge market is only a click aw Copyright CMP Media Inc.

COMPANY NAMES (DIALOG GENERATED): Cultural; Dell Computer; Digital Island Inc; DHL Worldwide Express; Emory University; Federal Expre Georgia Department of Industry Trade and Tourism; Goizueta School of Business; Marketer; Microsoft Network; Multimedia Production Servi; National Semiconductor Corp; P & D Creative Inc; QVC Inc; Recreational Equipment Inc; ROI; U S Department of Commerce; Virtu Vineyards Inc

2/9/19 (Item 9 from file: 647)

DIALOG(R) File 647: CMP Computer Fulltext (c) 2002 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

01148993 CMP ACCESSION NUMBER: INW19971222S0003

Moving To A FedEx-tranet

John Evan Frook

INTERNETWEEK, 1997, n 695, PG1

PUBLICATION DATE: 971222

JOURNAL CODE: INW LANGUAGE: English

RECORD TYPE: Fulltext

SECTION HEADING: News & Analysis

WORD COUNT: 808

TEXT:

If you think Federal Express Corp. plays a big role in your busin activities today, just wait until the holiday rush is over.

The package carrier is beta testing an extranet application that reaches into customer intranets and automates package-tracking and authorization procedures. Due in January, it runs on customer servers interfaces with FedEx.com, a public Web site that offers package -trac and other customer services. The workgroup-enabled Internet software, called FedEx intraNetShip, is designed to centralize what many times fractured policy-management system at user sites. It standardizes authorization procedures across an enterprise, sets up custom user interfaces and enables centralized reporting of departmental shipping budgets.

FedEx intraNetShip represents a critical extension of FedEx's Web strategy. FedEx is migrating from package tracking and other services its public Web site toward a model that relies on server applications running at customer locations.

Analysts and competitors said FedEx may be pushing customers too

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with its collaborative extranet application.

"There are large corporations that have many users initiating shipments, and one way to gain control of shipping manifests, label information and budgets is to centralize on the network,'' said Art Mesher, director of research for integrated logistics strategies grouthe Gartner Group. "The problem is that these systems only allow you use one specific carrier.''

FedEx said the application is critical. "This allows us to meet has been the largest unmet need of our corporate customers,' said M Janes, vice president for E-commerce and logistics marketing at FedEx. "The net result is that we're making the automation of the shipping process more accessible to the people who are actually shipping packages.'

United Parcel Service, which ships roughly 12 million packages d compared with FedEx's 3 million, has matched most of FedEx's Web functionality to date, as have smaller carriers. A UPS executive said company has no immediate plans to meet the workgroup application head

"Most of our customers operate from a centralized mailroom, where high-speed transactions are of utmost importance,' said John Menna, director of online marketing. "Putting shipments on the desks of individual users also may get a negative response.'

FedEx is hedging its bet. Concurrent with the new IP-based softwa FedEx is preparing to take the wraps off similar software for LANs ca FedEx Ship for Workgroups. It delivers common address book informatio shipping logs and access to tracking databases.

The intraNetShip server software makes use of LDAP to create a database of personal and shipping information, which administrators of modify based on authorization levels and previous activity. The application also relies on Common Gateway Interface (CGI) scripts to handle inquiries between the customer's server and FedEx servers, as as local storage of HTML shipping forms.

One user said beta versions of the software are changing rapidly. FedEx is addressing concerns and adding functionality based on user requests, he said.

FedEx is working to create a user interface that can be modified accommodate end-user input of an organization's specific EDI formats successful, the new functionality could optimize the clearing of transactions between FedEx and organizations' accounts- payable departments, whose EDI methods vary.

IT managers said intraNetShip will save some bandwidth, but not o grand scale. It circumvents the need for individual clients in an enterprise to link to FedEx's site to create a shipping form.

However, the FedEx application does not allow the shipper to upda an enterprise's server without a customer's permission, which would require some automated push technology.

Several customers said they'll spur adoption of the application t limit the number of company shipping requests going into drop boxes, o scheduling pick-up from central mailrooms, phone, fax or direct acces the FedEx public site.

"This would be of use to us,'' said Nicole Graber, a vice presi at photo supply wholesaler Unique Photo Inc. "Right now, our employees have to leave their desk to ship a package or overnight letter. This application removes a step.'' Ron Eike, director of operations at Omaha Steaks, said the application won't impact his company's prodigious mail-order operati where shipping requests are routed through the corporate mailroom. Ye Eike sees the application as a way to link retail stores and corporat operations.

"We have about 300 people on our network, the vast majority with Internet access, and all will have access to intraNetShip,'' Eike sai "Ultimately, the user, and not the consolidated mailroom operation, be knows when and how quickly they need to get a package out. The abilit track costs will cut down immensely on our paperwork.''

The intranet and LAN software highlight a shift in the way that FedEx serves corporate customers. For nearly 10 years, its large customers have relied on PowerShip, a proprietary hardware/software package that typically manages shipments through a corporate mailroom Copyright (c) 1997 CMP Media Inc.

COMPANY NAMES (DIALOG GENERATED): EDI ; Federal Express Corp ; Gartner Group ; Omaha Steaks ; Unique Photo Inc ; UPS

2/9/20 (Item 10 from file: 647)

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01139219 CMP ACCESSION NUMBER: CRN19970929S0073

Lotus apps teamed with UPS - Shipping, tracking in Domino Merchant, Net.Commerce

Charlotte Dunlap & Barbara Darrow

COMPUTER RESELLER NEWS, 1997, n 756, PG71

PUBLICATION DATE: 970929

JOURNAL CODE: CRN LANGUAGE: English

RECORD TYPE: Fulltext

SECTION HEADING: Internet Reseller

WORD COUNT: 233

TEXT:

Cambridge, Mass. - Computer vendors are continuing to jockey for partnerships with commerce companies in an effort to stimulate electro commerce activities.

Lotus Development Corp. and IBM Corp. will integrate the shipping tracking capabilities of United Parcel Service into its next version o Domino Merchant and Net.Commerce.

Lotus is building customized versions of the products, slated for fourth-quarter release, to integrate UPS' tracking capabilities initia with other UPS services to follow. The companies will roll out pilot programs of the technology beginning next month.

UPS began implementing similar non-exclusive, business to busines commerce partnerships early this year, with the idea of automating its shipping and delivering tasks via the Internet. Other UPS technology-integration deals include Padesic, the jointly created E-commerce comp between Intel Corp. and SAP; and iCat.

Lotus said the technology will go through the company's usual reseller channels under its Lotus Business Program.

"We're talking about an out-of-the-box solution, not a service, t deal directly with payment and shipment as provided by UPS, so a merch

can quickly set up a catalog business, process the transactions online route to UPS so its reps can come deliver product," said Keith McCall, director of Lotus Domino applications.

The companies would not discuss the terms of the agreement, which also represents joint marketing of the technology. UPS said it has $1.5\,$ million customers.

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COMPANY NAMES (DIALOG GENERATED): Intel Corp; IBM Corp; Lotus Busine Program; Lotus Development Corp; Lotus Domino; SAP

2/9/21 (Item 11 from file: 647)

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01111986 CMP ACCESSION NUMBER: IWK19961125S0038

Technology Spending - The Billion Dollar Club - Companies with big IT budgets have no problem getting vendors to listen

Bob Violino

INFORMATIONWEEK, 1996, n 607, PG34

PUBLICATION DATE: 961125

JOURNAL CODE: IWK LANGUAGE: English

RECORD TYPE: Fulltext SECTION HEADING: Trends

WORD COUNT: 3165

TEXT:

A billion dollars. Remember when that was a rare revenue milestone Now there's an elite group of American enterprises that spend that am of money each year just on information technology.

The billion-dollar IT club-with the likes of companies such as AT Chase Manhattan, and Prudential (see chart below)-is an exclusive yet growing group. The CIOs who manage these giant budgets are among the visible and envied executives in the IS community and within their organizations, overseeing massive, leading-edge projects on a scale that's unthinkable at many other organizations.

Billion-dollar CIOs wield enormous influence. They get first crac at the newest IT products and technologies. They call vendor CEOs and have their inquiries returned within hours, if not minutes.

CIOs at these companies are genuinely thrilled to be where they "I sit between the success and failure of the company," says Lance Bo CIO at telecom carrier MCI, which spends \$1 billion a year on IT and spend quite a bit more if its proposed merger with BT, the British telecommunications company, is approved.

But the glamour enjoyed by the billion-dollar club comes at a price: enormous pressure to deliver. These are companies where it's c to impossible to separate the technology from the business. "There ar risks to having such a large dependence on IT," says Denis O'Leary, executive VP and CIO at Chase Manhattan Corp. in New York, which will spend \$1.8 billion worldwide on IT this year. "Some of our throughput are measured in trillions. We rely on IT."

In fact, Chase Manhattan now views itself more as a 24-hour-a-da seven-day-a-week global processing machine than a bank.

Other big spenders include such technology powerhouses as AT&T,

Revenue (\$ billions): 21.05

Highest-Ranking IS executive: Ken Lacy, VP of IS

--

Company: MCI

IT budget (\$ billions): 1.00 Revenue (\$ billions): 15.27

Highest-Ranking IS executive: Lance Boxer, CIO

--

* IW estimate based on AT&T's 1995 budget

Data: InformationWeek 500 survey Copyright (c) 1996 CMP Media Inc.

2/9/22 (Item 12 from file: 647)

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01102961 CMP ACCESSION NUMBER: IWK19960909S0053

Information Is Part Of The Package - Package delivery companies are u innovative technologies to provide more information to customers.

Stephanie Stahl

INFORMATIONWEEK, 1996, n 596, PG206

PUBLICATION DATE: 960909

JOURNAL CODE: IWK LANGUAGE: English

RECORD TYPE: Fulltext

SECTION HEADING: InformationWeek 500 - Transportation

WORD COUNT: 1655

TEXT:

Not long ago, Frank Erbrick, CIO at United Parcel Service, walked into his boss' office and suggested changing the company's name to United Information Service. He was only half-joking. More than ever, U is moving beyond the package shipping business and into the informati business. At the heart of this transformation is information technolo

"Customers are demanding more, and we are learning how to do it w technology," says Erbrick, who heads an impressive technology organiza with 4,000 employees nationwide and a budget of more than \$1.5 billio "We used to think the whole business was about picking up packages an delivering them fast. We're way past that now. A package without information has no value."

Indeed, transportation companies have become big spenders in technology as they change the way they do business. The industry spen estimated \$16.3 billion on IT in 1995, according to G2 Research Inc. Mountain View, Calif., to bring information closer to the customer, reduce transit time, find competitive differentiators, cut expenses, so much more.

Package delivery companies such as UPS, airlines such as USAir, a trucking companies such as Caliber Systems Inc., formerly Roadway Services, are using innovative technologies to provide more informati to customers and to bolster customer service. For these and other transportation companies, online services and the Internet are fast becoming strategic weapons.

UPS soon hopes to provide some form of electronic service capabito all of its 1.3 million customers.

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The Atlanta company already offers a variety of online access mechanisms. Customers can install a Windows application that gives th dialup access to the UPS system. The UPS OnLine system offers package tracking, customs documentation, and daily shipping summaries. In the future, it also will include E-mail and advanced shipment notificatio capabilities.

Customers can also access such information through CompuServe, Prodigy, or the Internet. UPS's World Wide Web site (www.ups.com) receives hundreds of thousands of hits per day from customers looking package tracking information or seeking to schedule a pickup. "We want give customers the opportunity to use the Internet as a device to communicate with us," Erbrick says. "We want them to be able to have their pickup books reside on the Internet."

UPS is investigating ways to use the Internet to provide logistic management and other services. "We are trying to keep our hand on the pulse," Erbrick says. "We are making sure we are moving with the wave but we also want to stay a little ahead."

UPS competitor Federal Express also is taking advantage of the Net's pervasive infrastructure to offer tracking and shipping capabilities via its Web site in addition to its package tracking soft for PCs. Several hundred thousand users track packages through FedEx' World Wide Web site instead of calling a customer service center.

"The Internet is turning out to be a general-usage medium to pro value-added services," says Ron Stewart, a partner with Andersen Consulting's transportation and travel service. The key, he says, is provide a range of services to attract everyone from high - ly sophisticated cus- tomers who want to communicate via electronic data interchange down

to mom-and-pop shops.

UPS is helping companies integrate shipping information into thei core applications by providing direct links between customers' comput systems and UPS' host-based systems. It is establishing relationships with large companies to provide direct interfaces between customers' ordering systems and UPS' mainframe shipping system. Employees at a retail store, for example, will be able to log onto the UPS system to schedule product shipments. "It is a seamless interface to their orde entry system," Erbrick says. "They don't even know they are using UPS computers. Customers just want their business events taken care of."

"There is an opportunity through value-added services to increase intimacy with customers," says Andersen's Stewart. "Customers are ask for ways to link order entry, transportation management, and financial systems" to avoid duplication of effort, he adds.

Empowerment

Cutting out unnecessary steps and putting more power into the han of customer service representatives and users are key to improving customer service at USAir, one of the airline industry's top users of US Air is in the midst of deploying several innovative programs desig to make more data available internally and externally.

For an airline that has more than 17 million members in its freq travelers program, keeping up with customer inquiries and requests is small feat. Indeed, with frequent flier accounting information in one place, flight information in another, and tens of thousands of letter stuffing USAir's mailbox, it can take weeks to resolve a customer iss

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But USAir in Arlington, Va., is in the final stages of implementing a image-based system-code-named Astro-that will make collecting and tracking frequent traveler account information and correspondence mor efficient.

"The (frequent travelers) program has been getting so big that we have gotten as much as 20,000 pieces of mail a day," says Dan Bock, VP marketing services at USAir. "We simply couldn't handle it. So we are using technology to improve productivity and enhance customer service. The goal:single-call resolution. The customer, Bock says, should neve have to call more than once.

Utilizing a Wang OpenImage workflow and imaging system, all freq traveler information and correspondence will be scanned, indexed, and made available instantly to customer service representatives across a LAN. "Customers will know where their correspondence is at any point, Bock says. The customer service reps use Pentium workstations running OS/2 with 20-inch, high-resolution monitors for accessing distributed data and viewing images. The imaging system runs on two IBM RS/6000 workstations.

USAir is also incorporating ISDN and computer telephony into its customer service center so that customers' data can be transferred al with their phone calls. "We can have fewer employees but handle a gre number of transactions than ever before," Bock says.

The airline is putting more information in customers' hands. "We are always trying to find better ways to communicate and relate to the consumer," says Thomas Lagow, executive VP of marketing. "Our priority to use (technology) as a vehicle to create a more intense relationshi with the consumer."

That means giving the customer more control. USAir provides onlin software to its frequent travelers to let them check fares, make reservations, purchase tickets, select seats, and make sure their frequent flier ac-counts are updated.

The software, Priority Travelworks, has already been requested by nearly 60,000 customers, and about half of the users are purchasing electronic tickets with it. "All they have to do is show up at the airport with a photo ID," says Rita Cuddihy, VP of marketing and distribution planning. "This is not technology for technology's sake. Technology is the enabler."

USAir is working on a version of the software that will let corporate travel departments manage travel reservations and expenses. software, which is being tested by several large companies, runs on a Windows NT server and provides links to internal accounting systems a external Web sites, such as ground transportation companies, says Dav Grossman, the airline's senior director of electronic distribution.

USAir also is opening up the lines of communication with potentia customers through its Web site at www.usair.com. By year's end, the airline will let passengers book reservations via the Internet. It no makes a select number of discounted fares available on the Net.

More Than Tracking

Like UPS and USAir, transportation giant Caliber System also is using technology to make more information available to customers. The Akron, Ohio, company is building a customer service system that will customers a single point of contact for all services and provide more than just tracking information. The system will make account informat

claim information, rates, routing data, and other information availabl customers.

"In the past, they would have to make contact with customer servi representatives for each service," says Gerry Long, CIO and president Caliber Technology, the IT arm of the company. "Now, through effectiv information warehousing and call management, we can populate a custom service representative's screen with information, no matter where it located."

The key to making this possible is an open, distributed database infrastructure. "We want to make sure the information used for running business is the same information available to customer service representatives," Long says. "Having a distributed model gives us a opportunity to make data available in a reasonable time frame."

The company is standardizing its database technology on Oracle relational database management systems. It's also building a nationwi frame relay network and will standardize on TCP/IP for its networking protocol.

Helping drive Caliber toward improving information access for customers is a new business model that treats companies such as Vikin and Robert's Express as operating units. Previously, Caliber/ Roadway a holding company, and each of the individual companies was run autonomously.

This new business model is helping the units share technology mor than ever. "Now that we are a family of operating units, we are looki to leverage technology as much as possible across units," Long says. Together, the units have an IT budget of \$130 million.

The new model also is turning co-workers into business partners. company spun off its Roadway Express unit into a separate company, and Caliber now provides IT services to Roadway Express under an outsourc contract. "They used to be our colleagues," says Long. "Now, they are customers."

But regardless of who the customer is-a Roadway company or a corporate customer who uses Roadway's services-providing information quickly and efficiently is what will continue to drive the company.

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Transportation Trends

- Providing tracking, shipping, and other data via the Internet o online services
- Reducing paper by offering customers electronic ticketing capabilities
- Using distributed computing infrastructures to make more information available to customers
 - Using imaging systems to track customer correspondence Copyright (c) 1996 CMP Media Inc.

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Shipment tracking - Data Is Part Of The Package - UPS and rivals offer

services to help clients track their shipments

Eric R. Chabrow

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United stationers inc., an office products wholesaler, ships thousands of goods to its 20,000 dealers and their customers nationwid But the wholesaler's dealers can be a jittery lot. Hundreds of them ca United Stationers every day to see if clients received their shipments

That's why United Stationers has put in place an automated shippin tool, UPS OnLine-from United Parcel Service-to help calm dealers' nerv UPS OnLine allows customers like United Stationers to ask for pickups track their shipments. It also helps UPS clients customize record-keep and reports, print bar-coded address labels, review rate tables, and o supplies.

The new technology-part of a broad customer-automation initiative UPS-provides customers with advanced shipment notification, daily ship summaries, customer-to-UPS E-mail services, and automatic customs documentation for overseas deliveries. Eventually, it will permit UPS, world's largest shipper with 1994 revenue of \$19.6 billion, to bill customers automatically. "Carriers today are expected not only to pick shipments, but also to provide information on those shipments," says E Brockwell, VP of strategic accounts for UPS in Atlanta.

UPS hopes to roll out UPS Online by the end of 1996 to many of it 1.3 million regular customers. The service mirrors rival Federal Expre Powership, a customer-automation system unveiled in 1987. Ongoing effo by UPS, FedEx, DHL Worldwide Express, and Airborne Express, among othe represent a shift in the highly competitive package-delivery business merely shipping goods to also providing information about these shipme

For instance, until United Stationers installed UPS OnLine in Jun customer representatives needed hours to verify the receipt of a shipm The wholesaler is among the first to use the service. By the end of 19 Dudley Land, VP of customer automation and information at UPS, says da about 85% of the parcels the company handles daily will be captured electronically.

UPS plans to rely on a public frame-relay network to establish 1 with customers. But the system eventually may use the Internet as its communications medium. In September, UPS customers tracked some 70,000 packages through the UPS World Wide Web site managed by two Sun SparcStation 20 servers running Solaris version 2.4 and Netscape Communications Server 1.1.

Three Front Ends

Since 1994, UPS has spent \$100 million annually on customerautomation projects, primarily UPS OnLine. It expects to spend the same amount over the next few years. UPS OnLine lets customers tap into UPS IBM DB2 version 3.1 databases to pull down shipment information in 30 seconds or less from several IBM and Hitachi Data Systems mainframes through an applications-layer advanced peer-to-peer communications protocol using IBM AS/400 front ends. A custom-built customer-message

server routes the data to the appropriate database.

Eventually, UPS OnLine will be available for three types of cust front ends-smart phones, PCs, and mainframes. The PC front end uses Microsoft Windows 3.x and a Gupta SQLBase version 6.01 relational data management system. UPS plans to supply key large-volume customers with free turnkey system-a preconfigured 486SX PC, laser printer, modem, an package scale. UPS will make a free software -only system available to lower-volume customers.

While release of the PC system is slated for 1996, the first half dozen of UPS's 3,000 customers that use mainframes have been testing a version of UPS OnLine known as Host Access. This mainframe version was developed for UPS by Andersen Consulting, the Chicago consulting firm.

Twin Systems

At United Stationers, for instance, UPS OnLine Host Access links with the wholesaler's own order-entry system, which operates on an Amd 5995-10670M mainframe running the MVS operating system. The integrated system lets workers using United Stationers' dumb terminals or PCs acc United Stationers' invoice numbers, which can be cross-referenced with tracking numbers. "From our standpoint, both (our and UPS's) systems h become one," says Steve Schwarz, an executive VP at United Stationers.

UPS also developed UPS OnLine for Philips Electronics NV P100 and Forval FP500 smart phones. Both types of smart phones use Intel x86- compatible microprocessors. UPS OnLine software is embedded in a PC Ca which allows memory to be retained when power to the phone is turned o

In the meantime, UPS software developers, writing in the Cobol an programming languages, are revising legacy mainframe applications. The include systems that manage a fleet of 130,000 trucks and 523 aircraft "Now we'll be able to gather data before the packages get to UPS from shipper," says Nick Gray, UPS's computer resources manager. That will UPS better plan staff, truck, and aircraft resources.

To run the UPS OnLine systems, UPS will dedicate two mainframes, each at data centers in Mahwah, N.J., and Alpharetta, Ga., that will b each other up in the event of a failure. Also, UPS plans to more than double its 3.5 terabytes of network storage capacity, adding 4.5 terab of storage with Symmetrix 5500-9 integrated cache disk array storage systems from EMC Corp.

UPS anticipates that system will produce a deluge of customer dat traffic. "The amount of customer access in the next five years will be equivalent of all network activity that exists right now," says R.J. Montouro, manager of telecommunications application support at UPS.

That boost in customer traffic is why UPS plans next year to aba most of UPSnet, its private X.25 packet switching network with some 550,000 miles of dedicated circuitry, for a frame relay network manage a still-to-be-determined long-distance carrier. Montouro contends that increasing bandwidth on the existing network would be too costly to accommodate customers. Besides, he notes, competition among frame rela vendors should help keep that technology's prices low.

If FedEx's history with Powership foretells UPS's experience with its system, UPS's goal of 85% customer acceptance may be too optimisti Eight years after FedEx introduced the system, the \$9.4 billion Memphi shipper handles just 60% of daily shipments electronically. But Dennis Jones, FedEx's chief information officer, expects nearly universal acceptance by decade's end.

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Still, UPS and FedEx are very different shippers. UPS delivers 12 million parcels daily, while FedEx ships just 2.3 million a day. Fewer than 15% of UPS's shipments involve express delivery, while all of Fed do. "They view their customer requirements differently and structure t automated services accordingly," observes Greg Smith, VP of the Cologr Group, a Marietta, Ga., logistics consultancy.

FedEx, for instance, found little acceptance of a smart-phone solution it introduced a few years back. "The last thing people want their desks is another piece of hardware," says Mike Janes, VP of electronic commerce for FedEx Logistic Services.

But UPS's Brockwell responds that its pool of low-tech, small-business customers means there's a greater chance that a smart-phone solution will succeed.

One problem FedEx discovered with customer automation: Online service providers don't always deliver E-Mail in a timely fashion. Tho FedEx responds immediately to direct E-mail queries about a shipment, customer had to wait 12 hours to get a response through his America On account. "That's one reason we haven't pushed the E -mail option as har says Robert Hamilton, FedEx's manager of electronic commerce marketing

There's little doubt that the entire shipping industry is pushing automation for its customers. The move is fueled because so many enterprises want just-in-time delivery and little or no inventory. " So customers won't accept a package until they're pre-alerted of its arrival," says UPS's Land.

Adds James Cook, an editor at Traffic Management, a logistics tra publication in Newton, Mass.: "It's most important to deliver the right product at the right time to the right customer. That's why UPS and Fe are pouring big bucks into information technology."

In a business where customer information is becoming almost as critical as delivery itself, investments of hundreds of millions of dollars on customer automation systems are becoming a competitive necessity.

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Viteq Expands Benchmark Uninterruptible Power-Supply Line - Products Enable Interfacing With Computers That Have RS-232 Ports

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LANDHAM, Md. - Viteq Corp.'s Benchmark line of uninterruptible power-supply products has been expanded to include interface capabilit with the RS-232C interface.

According to Viteq, the new interfacing capability ensures that th Benchmark UPS line of products with "ideal" power protection may be us